

Message Text

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16

ACTION HEW-06

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1147

UNCLAS LONDON 06433

DEPT ALSO PASS FDA, BUREAU OF RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN, TBIO, UK

SUBJECT: PROPOSED CONTRACT WITH BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY

REF: STATE 89038

1. WITH RESPECT TO PROPOSED CONTRACT BETWEEN FDA AND BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY REGARDING INCIDENCE OF CANCER IN BRITISH CHILDREN AND CORRELATION WITH LOW LEVEL RADIATION EXPOSURE, SCIATT HAS STUDIED THE WORK AND BACKGROUND OF DR. ALICE STEWART, PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR, AND HAS MET WITH DR. STEWART PERSONALLY WITH THE FOLLOWING CONCLUSIONS. DR. STEWART IS A MOST REMARKABLE SCIENTIST WHOSE WORK REPRESENTS A MILESTONE IN SOCIAL MEDICINE. THERE SEEMS LITTLE DOUBT THAT THE EXTENSIVE STATISTICS ACCUMULATED UNDER THE OXFORD SURVEY PROJECT AND THIS CONTINUING STUDY OF INFANT MORTALITY FROM CANCER IS OF VITAL IMPORTANCE NOT ONLY IN UNDERSTANDING THE DISEASE ITSELF BUT ALSO THE LONG-TERM EFFECTS OF LOW LEVEL RADIATION. THIS IS OF CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE PUBLIC DEBATE ON WHETHER OR NOT TO PROCEED WITH NUCLEAR POWER DEVELOPMENT. IT IS A PITY THAT THE CLARITY AND DEPTH OF UNDERSTANDING OF THIS SUBJECT POSSESSED BY DR. STEWART CANNOT BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PEOPLE OF CALIFORNIA IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR FORTHCOMING ELECTORAL CHOICE ON NUCLEAR POWER.

2. THE FDA, BUREAU OF RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH, IS TO BE

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CONGRATULATED ON ITS WISDOM IN CONTINUING TO SUPPORT

DR. STEWART'S WORK. THE EMBASSY SEES NO OBJECTION TO THE
PROPOSED CONTRACT, INDEED WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT IT
BE CONTINUED AND EXPANDED.

ARMSTRONG

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